

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 SCCT-01

DHA-02 ORM-01 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /104 W

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R 040840Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5558

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 4378

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SW, GR

SUBJECT: GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS SWEDEN

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER DIMITRIOS  
BITSIOS MADE A 2 DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO SWEDEN SEPT 1-2.  
THE VISIT WAS IN RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION TO THE GOG  
ISSUED A YEAR EARLIER, WHEN THE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER  
WAS GEORGE MAVROS. WHILE IN SWEDEN, BITSIOS MET WITH  
PRIME MINISTER PALME, FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON, PRINCE  
BERTIL AND OTHER OFFICIALS. FOREIGN MINISTER AND MRS.  
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ANDERSSON HOSTED A DINNER AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN HIS  
HONOR.

2. ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED SEPT. 2, THE SUBJECTS

DISCUSSED BY BITSIOS WITH THE SWEDISH OFFICIALS WERE THE CSCE, THE MID-EAST, PORTUGAL, AND THE CYPRUS SITUATION. THE KEY SENTENCE ON THIS LATTER ISSUE WAS THE STATEMENT THAT "FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON CONFIRMED THE SWEDISH VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF REACHING A SOLUTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT U.N. RESOLUTIONS, BASED ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS." END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. WE DISCUSSED THE BITSIOS VISIT WITH THE CHIEF OF THE SECOND DIVISION (WESTERN EUROPE, U.S.) AF SILEN, WHO WAS PRESENT DURING MOST OF THE MEETINGS. ACCORDING TO AF SILEN, THE GOS AND GOG SAW "EYE TO EYE" ON THE CSCE, WITH BOTH GOVERNMENTS LOOKING TOWARDS THE 1977 MEETING IN BELGRADE. AF SILEN SAID THAT BITSIOS ASSERTED THAT THE GOG HAD MOVED ACTIVELY IN THE CSCE SPIRIT BY TAKING A "SERIES OF INITIATIVES" TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST BALKAN COUNTRIES. THE GOG IS ALSO PLANNING A CONFERENCE THIS FALL IN ATHENS WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE VARIOUS BALKAN COUNTRIES, BITSIOS SAID.

4. ACCORDING TO AF SILEN, THE GOG AND GOS ALSO HAD AN IDENTICAL OUTLOOK ON THE MID-EAST PROBLEM, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WERE SOME "NUANCES" OF VIEWS, WITH THE GREEKS MORE INSISTENTLY STRESSING THE NEED FOR THE ISRAELIS TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SYRIANS, NOW THAT THE SINAI QUESTION HAS BEEN DEALT WITH. THE GREEKS SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR A "NATIONAL HOMELAND" FOR THE PALESTINE PEOPLE, A TERM WHICH THE SWEDES AVOIDED, AF SILEN SAID. AF SILEN SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON DREW BITSIOS' ATTENTION TO AN INTERVIEW ON SWEDISH TELEVISION WITH PLO LEADER ARAFAT (STOCKHOLM 4304), IN WHICH ARAFAT IMPRESSED THE SWEDES AS EXTREMELY INTRANSIGENT.

5. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION, AF SILEN CONTINUED. HE SAID THAT BITSIOS STRESSED THE NEED FOR AN URGENT SOLUTION TO THE REFUGEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROBLEMS AND THE ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, CITING IN THE LATTER CASE THE POINT THAT THE TURK-CYPRISITS NOW CONTROL A DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE ISLANDS ECONOMY AS A RESULT OF THE INVASION BY TURKISH TROOPS. WHEN BITSIOS ASKED THE SWEDES TO UTILIZE THEIR "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH TURKISH OPPOSITION LEADER ECEVIT TO INFLUENCE THE GOT TO BE MORE CONCILIATORY, FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON DENIED THAT THE SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS HAVE ANY SPECIAL LEVERAGE WITH ECEVIT, AF SILEN SAID.

6. ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY DISCUSSIONS OF GREECE'S RELATIONSHIP TO NATO, AF SILEN REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NOT,

OTHER THAN A FACTUAL DESCRIPTION BY BITSIOS OF THE GOG'S  
PLACING ITS FORCES UNDER ITS OWN NATIONAL COMMAND RATHER THAN  
SUBJECT TO NATO COMMAND. AF SILEN ADDED THAT IN CONVERSA-  
TION WITH PRIME MINISTER PALME, BITSIOS REFERRED TO  
FRANCE'S "DIFFICULT" STRATEGIC SITUATION, WITH PORTUGAL  
THREATENED BY A COMMUNIST TAKE-OVER AND INSTABILITY IN  
PROSPECT FOR SPAIN WHEN FRANCO DEPARTS. THE PRIME MINISTER,  
AF SILEN SAID, DID NOT ACCEPT BITSIOS' DISMAL PROSPECTS  
FOR PORTUGAL, POINTING OUT THAT ANY COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP  
IN PORTUGAL WOULD, IN HIS VIEW, BE SHORT LIVED.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STOCKH04378  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750305-1039  
**From:** STOCKHOLM  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197509106/baaaadkq.tel  
**Line Count:** 122  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SW, GR, XF, CY, PO, CSCE, (PALME, OLOF), (BITSIOS, DIMITRIOS)  
**To:** STATE INFO ANKARA  
ATHENS  
CAIRO  
COPENHAGEN  
DAMASCUS  
HELSINKI

LISBON  
NICOSIA  
OSLO  
PARIS  
REYKJAVIK  
NATO

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006